

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2 290 BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

JAN 1 1 2012

Mr. Kenneth Kosinski New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Environmental Permits 625 Broadway – 4th Floor Albany, New York 12233-3505

Re: Comments on New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Draft SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with High Volume Hydraulic Fracturing Operations

Dear Mr. Kosinski,

Thank you for providing an opportunity to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to review the draft SPDES General Permit that was prepared by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for horizontal drilling and high-volume hydraulic fracturing to develop the Marcellus Shale and other low-permeability gas reservoirs.

Enclosed are our comments which we hope will assist you in drafting a proposed permit that will clearly set forth requirements and ensure the ability to adequately enforce the permit.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 212-637-3797 or Stephen Venezia, the EPA Region 2 Stormwater Coordinator at (212) 637-3856 or venezia.stephen@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Douglas Pabst, Acting Chief Clean Water Regulatory Branch

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Koon Tang, Director, Bureau of Water Permits

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation